

## Message Text

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47

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 IO-12 USIA-12 CU-04 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 AID-20 DODE-00 RSR-01

/096 W

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R 251430 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5370

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 1149

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 070302

EMBASSY RESPONSES CORRESPOND TO NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS OF REFTEL.

### I. YOUTH CATEGORIES

#### A. DIRECTION OF U. S. EFFORTS IN NIGER:

-- NOTE: G SUBSTITUTED FOR PERCENT SIGN)

30& - YOUNG BUREAUCRATS ( PARTICULARLY PLANNING MINISTRIES  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE)

30& - YOUNG PROFESSIONALS ( PARTICULARLY MEDIA, BUSINESS AND  
INDUSTRY AND EDUCATION)

25& - UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS

10& - YOUNG MILITARY AND POLICE OFFICERS

5& - YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS ( YOUNG PARLIMENTARIANS)

#### B. RATIONALE:

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EMBASSY DIRECTING PRIMARY EFFORTS TOWARD YOUNG BUREAUCRATS AND PROFESSIONALS SINCE THEY SEEM MOST LIKELY CONTINUE REPLACING OLD GUARD POLITICIANS IN GON POWER STRUCTURE. THESE GROUPS ARE GENERALLY ACCESSIBLE AND THE QUOTE COMERS UNQUOTE ARE MORE EASILY IDENTIFIABLE. SECONDARY EFFORTS ARE DIRECTED TOWARD LOCAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND STUDENT LEADERS WHICH PROBABLY LEAST FAVORABLY DISPOSED GROUP IN NIGER TOWARD U. S. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES HIGH POTENTIAL OF STUDENTS, BUT GIVEN RELATIVELY SMALL SIZE THIS GROUP PLUS STUDENT RELUCTANCE APPEAR TOO CLOSE TO AMERICAN OFFICIALS, ABOUT QUARTER OF TOTAL EFFORT IS MAXIMUM THAT CAN BE DEVOTED ADVANTAGEOUSLY TO STUDENT SECTOR. YOUNG MILITARY AND PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE ALSO GIVEN ATTENTION BY COUNTRY TEAM. BOTH GROUPS BASICALLY FRIENDLY TOWARD U. S. STRONG SENSITIVITY OF GON TOWARD FOREIGN CONTACTS WITH MILITARY AND SMALL NUMBER OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS ( LESS THAN DOZEN) PRECLUDE GREATER EFFORTS.

C. SHORT- TERM IMPACT:

NIGER' S FOREIGN POLICY STANCE IS GENERALLY CONSONANT WITH THAT OF U. S. G. OUR INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN NIGER ARE LIMITED AND THERE ARE NO CONTENTIOUS ISSUES AT PRESENT NOR ARE ANY FORESEEN LOOMING ON THE HORIZON. NIGER' S CURRENT LEADERSHIP AS WELL AS POTENTIAL REPLACEMENTS OVER NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS ARE PRAGMATIC, NON- IDEOLOGICAL AND GENERALLY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD THE U. S. ( UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ARE PROBABLY MANY MORE THAN FOUR YEARS AWAY FROM MOVING INTO ANY POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP, AND THEIR NEGATIVE ATTITUDES MAY CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN THE MEANWHILE.) THIS EMBASSY DOUBTS WHETHER ANY OF YOUTH GROUPS LISTED ABOVE WILL BRING ABOUT ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AFFECTING U. S. INTERESTS IN NIGER OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS.

II( A).

40& - DEVELOP FRIENDLY, INFLUENTIAL RELATIONS WITH  
POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS

40& - PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND  
POLICIES

10& - INFLUENCE ATTITUDES ON SPECIFIC U. S. INTERESTS IN  
NIGER

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10& - FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO BILATERAL TRADE AND  
U. S. INVESTMENTS IN FUTURE YEARS.

B. RATIONALE:

THE OBJECTIVES OF YOUTH PROGRAM PARALLEL TO LARGE EXTENT

THOSE OF THE PARA. U. S. INTERESTS IN NIGER ARE MINIMAL AND THERE ARE NO BASIC DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN NIGER AND THE U. S. THUS WE BELIEVE MOST PRODUCTIVE APPROACH IN OUR CONTACTS WITH POTENTIAL LEADERS IN NIGER IS TO DEVELOP FRIENDLY, INFLUENTIAL RELATIONS WITH THEM AND PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND POLICIES. WHERE APPLICABLE THE EMBASSY YOUTH PROGRAM SHOULD ALSO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE ATTITUDES ON SPECIFIC U. S. INTERESTS IN NIGER AS WELL AS TO FOSTER FAVORABLE ATTITUDES TOWARD U. S. TRADE AND INVESTMENTS ( POTENTIALLY URANIUM AND OIL).

III( A).

10& - CU INTERNATIONAL VISITOR TRAVEL GRANTS

25& - CU EDUCATIONUL GRANTS

CU FULL- YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO:

10& - FOREIGN PROFESSORS ( RESEARCH)

10& - AMERICAN PROFESSORS ( LECTURING)

5& - CU SHORT- TERM AMERICAN GRANTEEES ( LECTURERS, 35:.)

10& - AID TRAINING PROGRAM

10& - DOD OR MAP ORIENTATION TOURS IN U. S. FOR FOREIGN  
MILITARY OFFICERS

20& - USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING  
( OTHER THAN EXCHANGES)

B. PRIVATE SECTOR RESOURCES PLAY MINIMAL ROLE IN NIGER IN PROMOTING U. S. G. YOUTH PROGRAM, OTHER THAN OCCASIONAL SCHOLARSHIP.

C. PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS IN NIGER ARE NOT CONSIDERED PART OF THE EMBASSY YOUTH PROGRAM. NEVERTHELESS WHEN THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL THEY MAKE A SIGNIFICANT, ALTHOUGH INDIRECT AND INCIDENTAL, CONTRIBUTION TO THE EMBASSY YOUTH PROGRAM.

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IV. IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH

A. AND B. THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH IN THE OVERALL U. S. G. PROGRAM IN NIGER IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN MEDIUM AND LOW. IN TERMS OF MANPOWER AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES, SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF U. S. G. PROGRAMS IN NIGER HAS BEEN CONCENTRATION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ( AN OF LATE ON DISASTER RELIEF).

C.1( A). FOUR OF 13 MISSION OFFICERS SHOULD BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN SOME DEGREE IN YOUTH WORK FOR A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 12-15 MAN MONTHS PER YEAR.

C.1( B). CONTACT 40&  
REPORTING 20&  
PROGRAM 40&

C. 1( C). STATE 40&  
USIA 50&  
AID 05&  
DOD 05&

C.2. 20& OF CU BUDGET  
30& OF USIA BUDGET  
01& OF AID BUDGET  
MAP BUDGET IS REGIONALLY PROGRAMMED.  
MCCLELLAND

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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SS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005